

## Pilot Joe – IDT Meeting Notes

April 4, 2011

**Attendees:** Ed Reilly, Nate Goodwine, Jason Reilly, Mike Appling, Jerry Serabia, Greg Chandler, Stephanie Kelleher (notetaker), Jen Smith, Armand Rebeschke, Ted Hass, John Samuelson, Josh Robeson, John Gerritsma, Tony Kerwin, Craig Brown, Mike Derrig, and Luke Ruediger.

### Agenda:

- ✓ Background on Pilot
- ✓ Proposed Action – What is needed to finalize?  
(Packaging TS, stew, service contracts – brief!)
- ✓ What is surveyed and available this year?
- ✓ Schedule
- ✓ NEPA tactic
- ✓ Public Involvement – Luke

### Background:

- Small Diameter Collaborative went to D.C. - met with the Secretary of the Interior regarding the potential for a pilot project in the Applegate area.
- In December 2010, after meeting with Conservation Community members, the Secretary of the Interior designated a Pilot Project on the Medford, Roseburg, and Coos Bay districts.
- In Medford, collaboration is a key focus.
- The Middle Applegate Watershed will be evaluated as a landscape scale assessment. In 2011, phase 1 of the Pilot (Pilot Joe Project) will utilize areas that were previously surveyed (wildlife and botany) under the China Chapman/China Keeler NEPA process.
- The project will take a stand level and a landscape level approach.
- In 2009, Drs. Franklin and Johnson wrote a paper on Federal Forest Management in the Pacific Northwest.
- The NWFP land designations are good, but there is a need for a more landscape level approach
- Jason has developed Late-Successional Emphasis Areas (LSEAs) approx. 200-500 acres in size
- There are multiple committees for the Pilot, an Oversight, or Strategic team, a group that include our collaborator groups and select BLM folks, this ID team, and a smaller CORE team.
- So far, we have had 2 public meetings (March 1 & 2), one workshop (March 8), and one field trip (March 19).

### Proposed Action:

- Nate worked with Drs. Norm Johnson and Jerry Franklin (N/J), layout folks worked with Nate and N/J
- Objective is to treat the whole landscape (where needed)
  - ✓ Manage LSEA – restoration, treat similar to LSR (maintain complex structure, generally hands-off, fuels reduction?)
  - ✓ Economic viability of a unit –screening
- John G. made goal of sale by September 2011

- Marking has started, no cruising done – packaging in limbo until then.
- Other stands non-commercial are being identified

Luke joins us.

- ❖ The Applegate Partnership nominated Luke to be the community representative on the IDT. He will participate in conversations and provide a community perspective, including acting as a communicator between the community and the IDT.
- N/J looked at old shelterwood units with mistletoe; they are not interested in having those units as part of this first demo.
- What do we take on in the NEPA (EA)? Do we include potential future units in the area or do we limit it to what will be treated this year? To be determined.
- NOAA Fisheries consultation completed under China Keeler plan. As long as we stay out of riparian areas, no further consultation is needed.
- Scoping letter to go out this week, or next. Keep general, focus on the proposed demo treatments.
- Important to stay true to N/J process – no “retro-fitted TS”
- Harvest to start next year, important to get implemented on ground to evaluate results
- The China Keeler units were not all surveyed (botany); smaller pool than we thought to work with.
- We have received \$340K for stewardship; some will be for the Pilot, not all.
- Q: If this is a restoration project, are we going to look at road decommissioning? A: Remember this is a dry forest restoration project; maybe – to be determined.
- The BA (fish) may have used decommissioning to counteract effects; Jen will look into this.
- Follow-up broadcast burning as part of the Pilot proposed action?
- Include other non-dry DF forest areas (ie oak woodlands)?
- Analyze broader spectrum – service contracts
- Integration of vegetation management?
- Some planning on being done in phase 2 - not covered in this EA.
- Talk about larger concepts/goals in EA
- Put data files on P:/drive for shared access
- Planning process on landscape level: 1/3 dense, 1/3 more open
- Planning on stand level: incorporate skips/gaps, 15% no treatment, 15% small gaps
- Demonstrate across a range of conditions, as much as we can in this first phase
- Integrate skips/gaps – not a simple concept, ability to yard/costs of yarding plays into the where; there is some discretion for how we allow movement of the skips/gaps
- Important to check in with N/J on social/hard decisions re: trade-off situations and let them help guide the decision, not just BLM.
- Implementation contractually not all figured out with N/J paper/principles proposed.
- Jerry Franklin is available late April to review some of these tough situations (costs/benefits).
- Have a Field Trip then? Not huge, open to public.
- Social perspective – Integrity of treatments and maintenance is important

- Field Trip May 5<sup>th</sup> – look at mark, feasibility of implementation – monitoring will be key (success based on how we can do this)
- Implementation Issue (limitations): Understory <8" dbh - elaborate prescriptions would require new contracts (service or stewardship).
- Can we yard through skips to keep flexibility? Will run by N/J, but not running into a situation that would require this so far.
- So far, skips have been created using ecological anchors successfully. As difficult situations arise, N/J will review (get mark on map so they can).
- Compile a list of issues to discuss with N/J (will set up conference call).
- There is some concern re: broadcast burning implementation around skips, bring this up in call as well.
- Potential new road: moved along other side of ridge to avoid 180 yr old stand (also would require fungi surveys), not analyzed in previous EA, into Hinkle watershed, no analysis done.
- Other road concern: whether they will be temporary or permanent and how that will affect future access.
- Description and definition of roads important; public opposition to road building exists, important to provide costs/benefits.
- Do we take on transportation management on the project scale for this watershed? Tony K. is working on feasibility, will cause gridlock/opposition with public and risk tying up project.
- Things to do this week:
  1. Finalize scoping letter
  2. Josh/Craig – work on road system design
  3. More discussion on non-commercial opportunities
  4. Continue to mark (skips first, then marking around)
  5. Fuels validation still needed, N/J need to weigh in
  6. April 15<sup>th</sup> – finalize proposed units
  7. Next meeting Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> (send out agenda beforehand), include Luke on IDT email list.